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W H E T S T O N E  
F O R

D U H W I T S ;

O R A

P O E S Y

Of New and Ingenious

R I D D L E S .

Of Merry Books this is the Chief,

'Tis as a purging P I L L ;

To carry off all heavy Grief,

And make you laugh your Fill.

Printed and Sold in London.

88 ( 2 )

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A  
F O R

# Whetstone for Dull Wits.

## QUESTION I.

**I**NTO this world I came hanging,  
And when from the same I was ganging,  
I was cruelly batter'd and squeez'd,  
And men with my blood they were pleas'd.



Answer. *It is a Pipping pounded into Cy der.*

Q. I am white and stiff it is well known,  
Likewise my nose is red;  
Young Ladies will as well as Joan,  
Oft take me to their bed,

A. *It is a Candle.*

Q. A Tail,

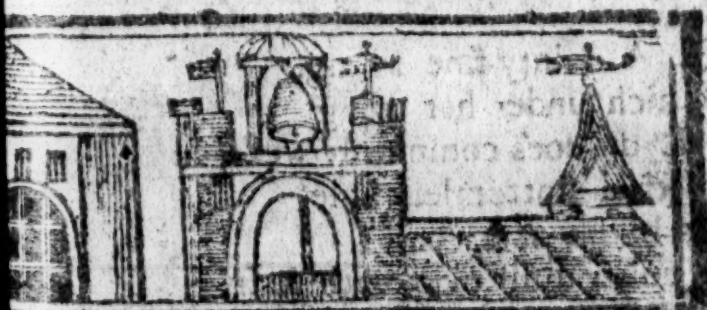
( 3 )

A wide mouth, no ears nor eyes;  
No scorching flames I feel;  
Swallow more than may suffice  
Full forty at a meal.



A. It is an Oven.

Tho' of a great age,  
Am kept in a cage,  
Having a long tail and one ear  
My mouth it is round,  
And when Joys do abound,  
O then I sing wonderful clear.



A. It is a Bell in a Steeple; the Rope betoken  
Q. A Tail, and the Wheel an Ear.

Q. The greatest travellers that e'er were known  
By sea and land were mighty archers twain,  
No armor proof, or fenced walls of stone,  
Could turn their arrows, bulwarks were in vain  
Thro' princes courts, and kingdoms far and  
near,

As well in foreign parts as Christendom,  
These travellers their weary steps then steer  
But to the deserts seldom come.



A. 'Tis Death and Cupid, whose Arrows  
pierce thro' the walls of Brass, or strong Armors  
in all Courts and Kingdoms in the habitable  
world

Q. A dainty fine Thing;  
Which under her wing  
My Lady does commonly wear,  
With a Bottomless hole,  
As black as a coal,  
And cover'd all over with hair.

A. It is a Muff.

Q. A maid with a basket of eggs.  
She saw a thing stand without legs;



'Twas both stiff and strong, *quint A O*  
 And some handfulls long, *quint A O*  
 Having a brusk beard;  
 She was not afraid, *quint A O*  
 And likewise she said, *quint A O*  
 She'd do it no wrong.

*A.* 'Tis an Ear of Rye Corn growing at the  
 end, which a Maid saw as she was going to  
 Market.

*Q.* Two Calves and an Ape.

They made their escape  
 From one that was worse than a spright;  
 They travell'd together  
 In all sorts of weather,  
 But often were put in a fright.



*A.* 'Tis a Man flying from his scolding wife;  
 the two calves and an Ape signify the calves  
 of the Legs and the Nape of his Neck, which  
 travelling was expos'd to the Weather.

Q. A thing with a thundering breech;  
 It weighing a thousand welly,  
 I have heard it roar  
 Louder than Guy's Wild Boar,  
 They lay it hath death in its belly.



A. It is a Cannon.

Q. It is without wings  
 Between silken strings,  
 And leaves as you'll find,  
 The guts still behind.



A. It is a Weaver's Shuttle.

Q. Close in a cage a bird I'll keep,  
 That sings both day and night,

( 7 )

When other birds are fast asleep, *ing off*  
Its notes yield sweet delight.



A. It is a Clock.

Q. To the green wood  
Full oft it hath gang'd, *dw in*  
Yet yields us no good,  
'Till decently hang'd.



A. It is a Hog fattened with acorns, *which*  
makes good Bacon when hang'd a drying.

Q. There was a fair maid,  
Who merrily said,  
Her lover was stupid and dull;

He put a long thing  
Into a black hole,  
And satisfy'd her to the full.

A. *It is a Pen.*

Q. I sent a token to my friend,  
It was a pledge that had no end;  
But when the same my friend did get,  
My friend soon put an end to it.

A. *A Ring sent to an ungrateful Person, who sold it.*

Q. In pain was a Squire's daughter,  
She hir'd a young man soon after,  
Tho' it was not much,  
Her sorrow was soon turn'd to laughter.

A. *A young Virgin, whose Natural Head and Maidenhead make two.*

Q. One mouth, one nose, two charming eyes  
Two feet, two hands, two heads likewise.



A. *A Maid whose Knee was out of Joint, which being set she rejoiced.*



Q. No teeth I have, and yet I bite,  
 And when the bite is seen,  
 According to my tender might,  
 There are the marks of spleen,  
 My beard is red and green.

A. *It is a Needle.*

Q. Two brothers we are,  
 Great burthens bear,  
 By which we are bitterly pread,  
 In truth we may lay,  
 We are full all the day,  
 But empty when we go to rest.

A. *A Pair of Shoes.*

Q. My backside is wood,  
 My ribs they are lined with leather,  
 My nose it is brass,  
 With two holes in my arse,  
 And commonly us'd in cold weather.



A. *A Pair of Bellows.*

Q. I am made of wood,  
 Clear brals and sound wood,  
 To keep men that they must not cozen,  
 I am twenty-four,  
 And can be no more,  
 Sometimes I'm reduc'd to a dozen.

A. A two-foot Rule, being 24 Inches, but  
 when split, no more than 12.



Q. A man and no man,  
 Like fury laid on  
 Sir Green was drowned in four:  
 With Sir White and Sir Black,  
 He stood to the tack,  
 Till all of them he did devour.

A. 'Tis a Taylor at Dinner with a Dish of  
 Cucumbers, served up with Pepper, Salt, and  
 Vinegar.

Q. There is a precious thing  
 That always is on the wing;  
 When on my face it lies,  
 You'll find how swift it flies.

( 11 )  
A. It is a Sun-Dial, which shews the swift-  
ness of Time.

Q. Rich, Yellow, and bright,  
Long, slender, and white,  
Both one in another there are;  
Now tell unto me,  
What this Riddle may be,  
Then will I your wisdom declare.

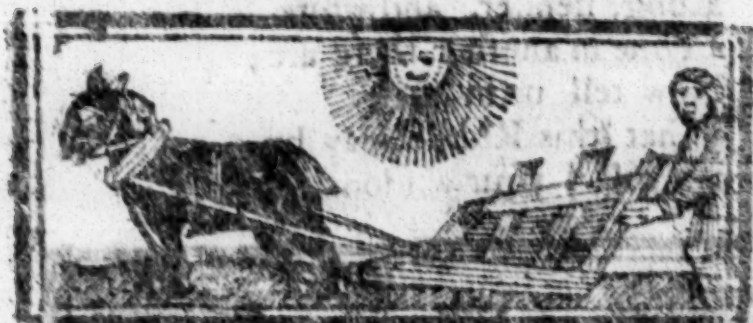


A. A Diamond Ring on a Lady's finger.

Q. It has many eyes,  
But never a nose,  
When down from the skies,  
Wind bitterly blows;  
And likewise does fall  
It faces them all,  
And scorns to complain.

A. A Lettice Widow.

Q. To ease men of their care,  
 I do both rend and tear  
 Their mother's bowels still:  
 Yet tho' I do,  
 There are but few  
 That seem to take it ill.



A. 'Tis a Plough, which breaks up the bowels  
 of the Earth for the sowing of Corn.

Q. I liv'd and dy'd: then after death,  
 Bereav'd some hundreds of their breath,  
 Afflicted by a man of grief,  
 To whom it yielded some relief.



A. 'Tis Sampson's Jawbone of an Ass, with  
 which he slew a thousand Men, and was relieved  
 himself by water springing from the same, when  
 he was thirsty.



There's many teeth but never a mouth,  
 A thousand at the least;  
 They are both East, West, North, and South  
 But seldom at a feast.

*A. A Pair of Woollen Cards.*

*Q.* A visage fair,  
 And voice is rare,  
 Affording pleasant charms;  
 Which is with us  
 Most ominous,  
 Prefaging future harms.



*A. A Mermaid, which betokens destruction  
 to Mariners.*

*Q.* Duke, Captain, and Lord,  
 With pistol and sword,  
 They can ne'er make me to retreat,  
 A stout warlike man,  
 I know that I can  
 Trample the spark under my feet.

Q. A little informer,  
Cloath'd in bright armor,  
Belov'd by men of degree,  
It goes fine and neat,  
Without legs or feet,

Now tell me what this Riddle must be.

A. *A watch in a silver case ; the Hand shows Men the Hour, while the Silver betokens bright Armour.*

By sparks of lawn fine  
I am lustily drawn,  
But not in a chariot or coach :  
I fly in a word  
More swift than a bird,  
That does the green forest approach.



A. *An Arrow drawn in a Bow by a Gentleman Archer.*

Q. My stomach they fit  
Sometimes with a bit,  
They give, and I'm the receiver,  
And what I do take,  
Does commonly make  
My fair face as hot as a fever.

A. *A Box-Iron, the Heater betokens the Bit.*

Q. By the help of a guide,  
I often divide  
What once in a green forest stood;  
Be hold me tho' I  
Have got but one eye,  
When that is stop't I do the most good.



A. *A Hatchet, with which they cleave Wood,  
All the Eye is stop't with the Haft it cannot  
perform Business.*

Q. I am puncheon and thick,  
My belly they prick  
With sharp and pointed spears,  
Tho' many a head appears,  
There's no eyes no ears.

A. *A Pin-Cushion full of Pins, whose Heads  
have no Eyes nor Ears.*

Q. My ears they run round about,  
And reach to the ground,  
To the admiration of man;  
The one part is dead,  
The other well fed;  
This Riddle expound if you can.



A. It is a Horse and Cart; the wheels be-  
ken Ears that reach to the Ground; the Horse  
led, the cart is dead.

O. I am carry'd quite thro' the city,  
Seeming mighty pretty,  
No quarrel or wrangle I breed:  
My body is taper,  
I fear not a rapier,  
Tho' stabb'd, not a drop do I bleed.

A. It is the Scabbard of a Sword.

Q. My skin is black, my blood is wet,  
My heart resembles wood,  
In which there's something may be eat,  
Tho' not exceeding good.

A. A Black cherry.



Q. My back is broad, my belly is thin,  
And I am sent to pleasure youth;  
Where mortal man has never been,  
Tho' strange, it is a naked truth.



A. A Paper Kite, which mounts the lofty air.

Q. 'Tis neither flesh nor bone,  
Yet it passes on;  
By which is fairly shewn  
The length and breadth of man.

A. A Man's Shadow, whilst he is walking in  
the Sun.

O. From five feet high,  
Up to the sky  
It reaches altho' it is round;  
Now try your wits,  
If fancy hits,  
This Riddle you'll expound.

A. The Sight of a Man's Eye.

Here

*Here follow several comical Questions.**Question 1.*

**I**F six shillings and a farthing shall be paid by a select number of men, each paying an equal share, how many shall there needs be to discharge the same?

*Answer.* Seventeen, each paying four-pence farthing.

**Q. 2.** How may a straw be laid upon the ground, that it may not be jumped over?—They to whom you propose this question, will think it easy to be done: If it shall come to a wager, lay your straw close to the wall on the ground, and they will soon see it impossible to be done. So yielding the wager lost, it may occasion some laughter.

**Q. 3** If a butcher finds his servant, to market, and orders him with twenty shillings to buy twenty head of small cattle of several prices: that is to say, Weathers at four shillings a piece, Ewes at twelve-pence, and Lambs at a groat; and to lay out all the twenty shillings, and to have twenty head, more or less, neither how many of a sort must

there be to compleat the number of the afore-  
said money ?

Ans. Two Weathers, nine Ewes, and nine  
limbs.

Q. 4. To lay a man's right hand upon  
himself, where he cannot touch it with his  
left, will seem strange to those who are un-  
acquainted with the trick ; and when they  
have tried, some will be ready to bet, then  
take their right hand, and lay it upon the  
backside of their left elbow, and they will soon  
be obliged to yield the wager lost.

Q. 5. How to make two Calves and an  
Ape dance in the middle of the room before  
company. — When you propose to do this,  
some will say you have the art of conjuration  
and that you are going to act the second part  
of Dr. Faustus : others will be curious to see  
what may be done in it : and the better to  
bring it about, will be apt to lay some small  
wager, that you cannot perform what was  
promised. Now the wager being laid, rise  
from your seat, and whereas you promised to  
make two Calves and an Ape dance, dance  
round the room yourself ; and the calves of  
your legs, and the nape of your neck will  
dance with you, which are what are men-  
tioned.

*Here follow merry Tales and comical Jestes.*

**I**N the reign of Queen ELIZABETH the County of Lancaster was much pestered with Witches, and whereupon the Queen sent her Judges down to try them. This being resolved to try the old men and women, whether or no they were Witches. Now one, among many, was a poor man, who having a sort of wart on his side, doubted that he was a witch; therefore he desired his wife to let him go to the place, which was about thirty miles, there to be resolved of his doubt. His wife being a very civil woman, gave him leave. Now after long travel coming to the court, which was then sitting, he rushed in amongst them, and the cryer of the court observing it, demanded silence, and bid him give an account to the court of what he had to say. Marry, quoth he, they say these gentlemen can tell one whether a body be a Witch or no, having a wart on my side, I am afraid I am, so I pray you'd resolve me. The cryer perceiving his ignorance, said, Alas! man, thou art no Witch; thou look-est more like a cuckold than a Witch. Then making a leg to the court, he gave them thanks, and so returned home chearfully. His wife meeting him at the town's end, said,



Husband, art thou a Witch or no? No, wife, they tell me I look like a cuckold. Husband, say they so, we will have them taken up for Witches, for unless they were Witches they could not tell that you was a cuckold.

A young woman being alone, a gentleman came into her company, who after a friendly salutation, asked how her husband did? She said, He is as cross and unkind to me as ever man was to a wife; so that I have but little comfort in his conversation. Alas, quoth he, why do not you make him a cuckold? she smiling said, Sir, I cannot, but you may.

A Welchman meeting with a bonny Scot, began to brag of hur wonderful adventures and long travels. The Scot replied, What have you learned in far countries? The Welchman said, Hur has learnt to stop three holes with one peg. The Scotchman replied, This is a pretty trick; how is it to be done? Why quoth the Welchman, put hur nose in my arse, and then there will be three holes stoppt with one peg.

An old woman in a country village had been such a wonderful cracker of nuts all her life-time, that at her death she willed, that a bag of nuts might be put in her coffin to lay her head upon, which was accordingly done; which the old woman was often seen

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after her death sitting in the church-porch, cracking of nuts. Now it happened that a couple of butchers had made a bargain to steal sheep out of a pasture-ground adjoining to the church-yard : It was agreed upon between them, that one should sit in the church-porch and watch, while the other fetched a sheep on his back to him. It is to be noted that the sexton was a lame man, and used to be carried on a man's back every winter's morning to ring the five o'clock bell. Coming as usual, the butcher waiting for his companion, thought he had been coming with a sheep upon his back, and said, Is it fat? Is it fat? The fellow thinking it had been the old woman cracking of nuts, was horribly frightened, and thereupon he threw the lame sexton down, crying, Fat or lean, take him as he is, Mr. Devil; and then run out of the church-yard like a fellow distracted, leaving the poor affrighted sexton to crawl home upon all-fours.

A countryman having one son, named Jack, an unlucky boy, his father one day was about to chastise him for his wickedness; but Jack getting from him by the help of a light pair of heels, turned about and cried out, You old sheep stealer, I can hang you if I will. His father continued to call him; but he said, I will not come, you will beat me.



A neighbour coming by said, Jack, go to your father, and he will not beat you. Trust him and bang him, quoth Jack. The neighbour calling to his father said, You will not beat him if he comes quickly? No, quoth he, I will not. Jack cried out aloud, Gaffer, I swear him, for he will swear like any dog. At which the neighbour went away laughing, &c. and left Jack and his father to fight out fairly.

A Citizen that was more tender of himself than his wife, usually in cold weather made her go to-bed first, and when her fat buttocks had sufficiently warmed his place, he came and removed her out of it, and lay in it himself: and to make himself merry, called her his warming-pan. She not being able to endure this indignity any longer, one night (Sir Reverence) beslit the bed. He fell into it, and finding himself in a stinking condition, Cried out, O wife, I am beslipped! No, husband, says she, it is only a coal slipped out of the warming-pan.

A schoolmaster asked one of his scholars in the winter-time, what was Latin for cold? O, Sir, answered the lad, I have that at my fingers ends.

A young gentleman, late of the country, having more wit than money, and paying

not his chamber, study, or commons, was indebted to the house; and it was thereupon ordered that his chamber should be seized. He hearing thereof, cried, I'll remedy that I am resolved, and so presently went and took the chamber door off the hinges, and locked it up in his closet. The officers coming to fix a padlock thereon, found themselves disappointed; and searching the room found not any thing worth their seizure.

A poor ignorant clown, who had the reputation of being a great scholar in the country, because he could read and write, would not be satisfied till he saw the rarities at London. Walking the streets he read on a sign-post. Here are horses to Let, 1647. Jesu says he, if there are so many horses in one Inn, how many are there in all this city.

Thus I conclude this little book  
Of Riddles, Joaks, and Tales,  
Which may create a cheerful look,  
When other methods fail.

F I N I S.

from Collin's Ballads



21

No. 6.

he Sunday, a little before sunset. As the long to the Greek Church, and their Fast frequently falls twelve days later, we got the season of fasting. The worthy old monk Robinson mentions, had died that morn- ing, and his successor is to have the rank

The whole life of these four priests and lay brothers is the reverse of edifying. It gives us the general impression of being, as it were, under a dark rain-cloud, weighed down by the usual pressure of ignorance and indolence, under a physical sky under which they vegetate cheerless and the temperature moderate. They are the only inhabitants of the vast desert who enjoy the refreshing shade of cypresses, and the olive-trees. The small but not un- comfortable cells they occupy are built round a well-kept church, in the Basilica style, the roof of which is richly ornamented. They possess besides a library containing about 1500 volumes in ἱερατικὸν ψυχῆς, in which, had they any other, they might find a remedy for their ennui." The Professor describes in laying out the objects "three historical points in our journey which we had mainly to keep in view. First, the Egyptian colonies, the inscriptions of which of whose temples in the northern desert have attracted the admiration of travellers, give rise to most extraordinary hypo-

theses, contrasts them with the adjacent light-brown rocks, was conveyed from the airy eminences, which were situated for their fur- ther wind continually blowing found particularly dangerous on the stele are pre- sented those on the road to the quarries; but that they are detached rocks to support them- selves, the old road led to the place un- able to visit, however of water. We had Maghára, where we found inscriptions, close by the pyramids, which are of the same age as those of Sar'but el- khayma, and indeed, contain the old Egyptian en- ce, without excep- tion the pyramids of Giza, Numchufu, &c. are either offering sacrifices to their enemies; when princes or private in- dividuals are bit- ted. In reference to the places mentioned



